

NSC BRIEFING

20 May 1953

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ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN PEACE PROSPECTS

General Nagib, in telling Secretary Dulles on 11 May that after a Suez settlement, peace with Israel could probably be achieved, repeated a view privately voiced to American diplomats on several past occasions by other Egyptian officials. Various Arab leaders admit privately that settlements with Israel ought to be made. But popular sentiment is so strong that none of them are ready to go before their people and advocate it.

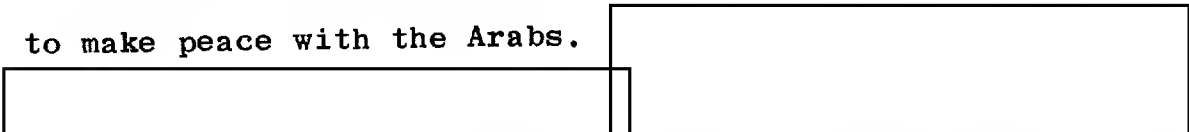
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Israel has repeatedly and publicly reiterated its desire to make peace with the Arabs.

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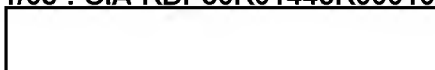
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Israel's ability to compromise is sharply limited by its own public opinion on these emotional issues.

Prospects for a Palestine settlement accordingly remain gloomy.

State Department review completed



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